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# French, Pursuing Nazi SS Chief, Stymied in Bolivia

STATINTL

By Peter J. Bernstein  
Newhouse News Service

Paris—A diplomatic scandal is brewing over a beautiful girl, a wanted Nazi who reportedly worked for the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency, and an unyielding South American dictator.

The Nazi, say French and German police authorities, is Klaus Barbie, a Gestapo chief, now said to be living a rich life in Bolivia under an assumed name.

His wartime record in France, where he signed an order transferring 41 Jewish children to the gas chambers at Auschwitz, is lurid enough to make President Georges Pompidou of France demand Barbie's extradition in a formal communication.

But Hugos Banzer, the Bolivian strongman who rode to power last year in a military coup, has turned Pompidou down. He claims Bolivia does not have a normal extradition treaty with France and prosecutes no crimes older than 20 years.

Despite Banzer's intransigence, the Bolivian Supreme Court is weighing evidence that Barbie used fraudulent papers to obtain Bolivian citizenship. If his citizenship is nullified and the Bolivian strongman relents, Barbie may eventually face a warcrimes tribunal in France, thanks to the relentless efforts of a German girl who dug up the evidence.

Beate Kunzel, daughter of a Protestant working-class family in Berlin, was a 5-year-old girl when the Nazi Gestapo chief sent the Jewish children to Auschwitz.

Now 33 years old and married to Serge Klarsfeld, a French Jew, whose father also died in Auschwitz, she first drew international notice in 1968 when she slapped the face of Kurt George Kiesinger, then chancellor of West Germany, as he spoke against his having joined the Nazi Party in 1933.

She got a year in jail for the incident, but was released after four months. Since then she and her husband have been gathering data on the hundreds of Nazi war criminals who have gone unpunished.

"All these criminals were rehabilitated and occupy high posts, which is like declaring their crimes were nothing, and may be done again," she says.

## Lyons 'Hangman'

At the top of her list is Barbie, known as the Hangman of Lyons, who was twice condemned to death in absentia by French courts for his wartime activities.

Barbie had been Gestapo chief in Lyons in the German occupation and was convicted of having committed 4,342 murders, of sending 7,591 people to the gas chambers, and of arresting thousands of French resistance fighters. Among the many who died in Barbie's hands was Jean Moulin, the leading martyr of the French resistance, who was tortured to death.

Both Mrs. Klarsfeld and French and German authorities maintain that Barbie has been living undisturbed for the last 20 years under the name of Klaus Altmann. They say records show that he obtained false travel documents in 1951 through an International Red Cross organization in Rome and escaped to South America.

His claim that Klaus Altmann was a minor German SS officer during the war who never murdered anyone was made to look ludicrous by the exhaustive research done by Beate Klarsfeld and her husband, aided by West German prosecutors.

Besides identical fingerprints and looking alike, authorities say, Barbie and his children have the same names and birth dates as those

of Klaus Altmann, who acquired a Bolivian passport and Bolivian nationalist status 14 years ago. Barbie's marriage date also is the same as Altmann's.

The chief key to the identification, Mrs. Klarsfeld says, came when the International Red Cross in Geneva, in a rare breach of its normal secrecy over identification matters, acceded to her request and released the fingerprints, identity card, photograph and signature under which Barbie-Altmann traveled to South America in 1951.

Mrs. Klarsfeld turned the information over to the French, who had given up on Barbie in 1950. German records, she said, indicate French officials had twice questioned Barbie in an American intelligence office near Augsburg after the war, but the American occupation authorities refused to extradite him.

According to the London Sunday Times, Barbie worked regularly for American as well as Bonn intelligence after the war. It was while working for the CIA the paper said last month, that Barbie was sentenced to death in France.

The Gestapo chief is said to have handed over to the CIA for its secret files a list of prominent Frenchmen who collaborated extensively with the Gestapo during the occupation. The French, the article said, were not allowed by American authorities to question Barbie in detail after the war, and then only in the presence of CIA agents. The article added that it may have been with CIA help that he got his false Red Cross passport in 1951.

Mrs. Klarsfeld is determined to keep the spotlight on Barbie no matter how many obstacles bar her way.

She has gone to Bolivia twice in the hope of presenting evidence to authorities there and to

second visit last month she was arrested three times and held for extensive questioning.

## A Possible Killing

Interviewed recently in their modest Paris apartment, both Beate and Serge Klarsfeld doubted that the Gestapo chief would be extradited.

"If there is a bad decision by the Bolivian courts or if the state refuses extradition, it will be necessary to kill him," said Serge. "If we can't arrive at a just decision by legal means, we will use extra-legal means."

But they acknowledge that the chances for killing or kidnapping Barbie are not good. He is living in a luxury suite of a private clinic in La Paz, the Bolivian capital, and police are guarding him for fear of such an attempt.

The Klarsfelds, together with three friends, tried to kidnap another Gestapo boss in West Germany last year, but the attempt misfired. Their intended victim, Kurt Lischka, now a successful businessman in Cologne, was chief of the Nazi police in Paris. A top SS official in Hitler's Gestapo, he was sentenced in absentia to life imprisonment by a French court for his role in the deportation of 100,000 French Jews to concentration camps.

He is one of about 1,000 German war criminals who were condemned in absentia by French courts but so far have eluded prosecution.

After the kidnapping attempt misfired (Lischka is a big man despite his years and resisted and police rushed to his help), Mrs. Klarsfeld showed up at the local justice department, armed with a dossier on the Gestapo chief and admitted her role in the attempted kidnapping.

She was disappointed when

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6/24/98

24 FEB 1972

# French-U.S. tie tightens vise on drug trade

By Takashi Oka

Staff correspondent of  
The Christian Science Monitor

Paris

The "American connection" is beginning to pay off for the French police.

Obscured by months of public wrangling, French-American cooperation in narcotics control is recording some encouraging results.

The latest is the arrest of Dominique Mariani in Paris Saturday and his being formally charged Wednesday with supplying 44.5 kilograms of pure heroin to Roger Delouette. Mr. Delouette was arrested at Port Elizabeth, N.J., last April on charges of smuggling the heroin into the United States.

The Delouette case erupted into one of the biggest public scandals in France last year, entailing sensational charges hurled across the Atlantic and within the rumor mills of French politics.

Mr. Delouette, it turned out, had worked at one time for the SDECE, the French equivalent of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. After being arrested, he claimed that he had been supplied the heroin, worth \$12 million on the black market in New York, by a former superior in the SDECE, a Col. Paul Fournier. His charge was taken seriously enough by the American authorities for a grand-jury indictment to be drawn up naming Colonel Fournier as an accomplice of Mr. Delouette.

## Officials deny charge

SDECE officials indignantly denied the Delouette charge, and the colonel in question appeared before a French judge investigating the case—Judge Gabriel Rousset—to affirm his innocence. At this point a former employer of Mr. Delouette, Col. Jean Barberoi, a onetime French ambassador to Uruguay and now head of an agricultural cooperation service believed to be a cover for French intelligence agents, gave an interview saying that Colonel Fournier's real name was Paul Ferrer.

While American congressmen accused French authorities of collusion with narcotics smugglers and protecting the "big

wheels," French newspapers had a field day speculating about "a settling of accounts" within competing French intelligence networks or even between SDECE and the CIA.

## From Turkey, via Marseille

Meanwhile, French and American police and narcotics-control agents were patiently trying to unravel the full dimensions of the Delouette case and the much bigger story behind it — the smuggling of larger and larger amounts of heroin from France into the United States.

The drug reaches Marseille in southern France from Turkey in the form of morphine base, and is there refined into the fine white powder that is pure heroin. French traffickers are estimated to have made \$75 million from this operation last year.

Last year the American Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs had 23 agents working in Europe, mostly in France, while the French central narcotics squad had two liaison agents as their "American connection" in New York. Working patiently and methodically together between Sept. 2 last year and Feb. 7 this year, the French and American drug-control authorities arrested a total of 23 persons, some in the United States, some here in France. It was charged that these persons belonged to a network headed by a certain Joseph Signoli, manager of a bar near the Arc de Triomphe, who was arrested with nine others Jan. 17.

## Confession reported

The French police believe that Roger Delouette received the heroin he smuggled to the United States not from Colonel Fournier but from Dominique Mariani, a known criminal said to be a member of the Signoli network.

Mr. Mariani is said to have confessed Tuesday that he supplied Mr. Delouette with the heroin he took to the United States. His confession, if sustained, does not close the Delouette-Fournier case, but it increases the credibility of affirmations by SDECE authorities that neither they nor Colonel Fournier had anything to do with the affair.

In a speech to the American Club Tuesday, American Ambassador Arthur K. Watson paid high tribute to international cooperation in narcotics control. In 1969, he said, 456 kilograms of heroin or morphine base were seized by police in Europe. By 1971 the figure had risen to 1,340 kilograms.

"We've had marvelous help, marvelous cooperation from France," the Ambassador said. "Our two nations are in the struggle together, we both fully understand this, and we're working well together."

9 DEC 1971

# French U.S. Spy Case May Hamper Pompidou

By Jonathan C. Randal

Washington Post Foreign Service

PARIS—Over the years scandals have so regularly besmirched the French counterespionage organization that the latest cause celebre was greeted by a cartoon suggesting that a washing machine was needed to handle the growing volume of official dirty linen.

Involving a sometime French spy charged with smuggling 96 pounds of heroin into the United States last spring, the scandal has been connected by the press with a whole series of unsavory real estate frauds involving the ruling Gaullists.

The question of whether the scandals involve a CIA maneuver to embarrass its French counterpart or rivalries within the French organization is—and promises to remain—as murky as the plot of a cheap spy thriller.

But what is immediately at stake is the reputation and political future of President Georges Pompidou and the Gaullist party, grown increasingly nervous with every new scandal and the approach of the 1973 legislative elections.

What is also at stake—as it has been for years in France—is the role of any counterespionage and intelligence operation in a Western democracy.

Tying odd ends of seemingly unconnected cases into one irrefutable plot has always been an honored intellectual pastime in the land of Descartes whose citizens have a natural penchant for the conspiracy theory of history.

But the current spectacle of official and unofficial spies calling each other names, complete with charges of high treason answered by \$200,000 slander suits, smacks of déjà vu.

Beyond the maelstrom of speculation occasioned by such

wayward Gallic James Bonds is the knowledge that the French spy organization has defeated all attempts at serious reform ever since its Free French beginnings in World War II London.

More than 13 years of Gaullist rule have contributed to an attrition of vigilance, especially since Gaullists have always had a weakness for clandestine operations and questionable operatives.

The Service du Documentation Extérieure et de Contre-Espionnage—pronounced sdeck—has suffered through an American period, followed by the traumas of the Algerian war, hostility to the United States and the end of once close links with Israel, only to be told to mend its American fences during the past year or so.

The previous low-water mark in the service's history occurred in 1965 when agents of the "swimming pool"—as SDECE headquarters in Paris is called after a nearby sports center—were implicated in the mysterious kidnapping and death of Mehdi Ben Barka, a leftist Moroccan politician in exile.

At that time no fewer than 13 separate police and intelligence organizations were identified, and the French people became acquainted with the distinguishing characteristics of the "barbouzes"—or bearded ones, as spies are called in argot.

It was not entirely surprising to learn that among Ben Barka's abductors were common law criminals who during the wartime occupation had worked for both the Germans and the Resistance.

Earlier, during the closing days of the Algerian war, the Gaullists recruited barbouzes from like backgrounds in their fight against the Secret Army Organization. Gaullists were determined to keep Algeria French.

Despite the barrage of detailed charges and countercharges made public in the past two weeks, SDECE itself has never seen fit to publish the results of the reform carried out at Gen. de Gaulle's orders after the Ben Barka affair.

However, a Paris newspaper reported that of the swimming pool's 1,500 operatives 506 were then purged with 473 of them returning to the armed forces whence they had come.

An official National Assembly report on SDECE complained that low pay was discouraging recruitment, a failing which may help to explain why so many "barbouzes" seem to get into serious trouble.

Symptomatic of such apparent financial problems were the cases of Roger DeLouette, the center of the present scandal, and Andre Labay, arrested here earlier in the fall for drug trafficking. Both had worked for SDECE.

Quite apart from the "war of the clans" within SDECE, which is real enough, the organization's real weakness is in cutting the umbilical cord with its agents once they have ceased being useful.

There have been some cases to suggest that unemployed "barbouzes" exercise sufficient leverage on their former employers to afford a certain license in finding other means of support which are not always above board.

The three gangsters involved in the Ben Barka case for example, had run houses of prostitution for a long time and were allowed to disappear abroad with an ease the government found embarrassing.

The question has been raised of how SDECE is financed beyond its rather stingy budget appropriations. During the China war, a French airplane regularly landed

behind Vietnamese lines to collect the opium harvest. Theoretically, the operation was to deprive the enemy of an important source of financing but it remains unclear even today what the French authorities did with the opium. (Similarly, the French press has accused the CIA of doing much the same with Laotian and Cambodian opium.)

Inevitably, the name of Jacques Foccart has been mentioned again in this case as it was in the Ben Barka affair. Foccart is nominally secretary general of the French-African Community—an organization which has had no legal existence for these 11 years—but his real business is ensuring that all goes relatively smoothly in former French black African possessions.

His organization reputedly employs many "barbouzes."

More open to question are such purely Gaullist unofficial organizations as the Committees of Republic Defense and the Civil Action Service which anti-Gaullists have charged involve former "barbouzes" in all kinds of skullduggery, including drug trafficking.

Theoretically, they are a kind of Gaullist internal police to provide protection for Gaullist politicians and workers during election campaigns.

There is apparently well-founded speculation that much of the French exploitation of the scandals is linked to the legislative elections now on the horizon.

Many Frenchmen agreed with Gen. Pierre Billotte, a former defense minister and Gen. de Gaulle's wartime chief of staff, who claimed that SDECE was "no longer in the republican order" and called for its "dissolution."

But his statement was undercut by the knowledge that Billotte had hoped to take over as the boss of SDECE and had been turned down.

Nonetheless, his words struck a deeper cord than those of Defense Minister Michel Debre, who is technically responsible for SDECE.

He said the whole DeLouette affair was a "small printing" on the 15th page of a third-rate paper and "a small scandal."

# The great French spy scandal

from BORIS KIDEL: Paris, 27 November

ALLEGATIONS are flying thick and fast here in the lurid scandal that has erupted over France's espionage service.

It has been claimed that a senior officer of French Intelligence was sacked last year on suspicion of high treason, and that the intelligence service is engaged in large-scale drug-trafficking to supplement its income.

The affair was triggered off by the arrest in the United States of Roger Delouette, until recently employed by the 'Service de Documentation Extérieure et de Contre-Espionage' (SDECE), the French intelligence agency. He is alleged to have taken 90 kilos of heroin worth \$12 million into the US. He has made the sensational claim that he was acting for one of France's intelligence chiefs.

## KGB documents

Last month, a French businessman, André Labay, allegedly an SDECE man stationed in Haiti, was detained here when police claimed to have found 106 kilos of heroin in his car. In July, another man with SDECE links, Michel Mertz, who went under the intelligence pseudonym of 'Commandant Baptiste', was jailed for five years on drug charges.

In an interview which caused tremors here this summer, John Cusack, then European chief of the US Narcotics Bureau, bluntly charged that people in high places in France were shielding drug smugglers. What remains obscure is whether senior SDECE officials know of any drug connection and, if so, whether they authorised it.

It has been said in the Press here that the SDECE, as well as other Western and Communist intelligence services, had become involved in drug smuggling in recent years to augment the funds at their disposal. In the case of the French, it was alleged, the proceeds from drug traffic were deposited in Swiss bank accounts and then invested in highly profitable real estate speculation. The profits were used to finance intelligence operations for which no Government funds were available.

There are also persistent rumours that SDECE's agents were involved in counterfeit dollar traffic. The police claim to have seized the sum of 17,400 counterfeit dollars at the home of Delouette's girl friend.

On a different level, it is SDECE's reliability as an intelligence service which is at stake. For many years the CIA has studiously avoided intelligence co-operation with the French because, it was believed, the SDECE was packed with unreliable agents. This assumption was

strengthened by an SDECE agent, Thyraud de Vosjoli, who defected to the Americans and alleged that a senior French official was a Soviet spy.

His story sounded too fantastic to be true, but now even informed Frenchmen concede that the Soviet KGB possessed at one time incriminating material about some French Intelligence executives and their wartime connections with the Germans. This material, supplied to the Russians by the French Communist Party from files seized at the end of the war, is said to have exposed them to blackmail.

The Defence Minister, M. Michel Debré, who is in charge of Intelligence, has asserted that the systematic denigration of the SDECE was proof of its excellence.

But as the days have gone by, it has become increasingly evident that the SDECE itself is rent by violent internal feuds.

President Pompidou appears to have become concerned about the SDECE's affairs last autumn when he chose a family friend, Count Alexandre de Marenches, to take charge of the service. The count's brief was to eliminate undesirable elements in the service and to conduct thorough reforms.

The President had his own grievances against the SDECE. Some of the Gaullist diehards inside the service tried to discredit him two years ago when it became apparent he was seeking to become General de Gaulle's successor.

## Debre annoyed

However, Marenches's primary mission was to adjust the direction of French Intelligence operations. Under General de Gaulle, it is said here, the SDECE had virtually ceased to concern itself with the Soviet Union and other East European countries. Now the Communist bloc was to come under renewed scrutiny and collaboration was to be restored with the CIA and other Allied services. A purge of SDECE which led to the elimination of some Gaullist activists had already been carried out by the service's deputy chief, Colonel Jacques Beaumont.

Within his first few weeks at the SDECE, de Marenches fired 20 of the top executives. So an important element in the SDECE crisis is the clash between, on the one hand, the men brought in by Pompidou to change the service, and on the other, the die-hard Gaullists in the service who are trying to retain their influence on the service and prevent renewed co-operation with CIA.

Last week, a prominent Gaullist, Colonel Roger Barberot, charged that one of the executive who had been sacked was suspected of 'high treason.' Barberot is not just another Gaullist politician. A man with an outstanding war record, he was French Ambassador in the Central African Republic and in Uruguay and a founder of the 2 wing Gaullist organisations.

Since 1968 he has been chief of the mysterious Bureau for the Development of Agricultural Production, ostensibly operated by the Foreign Ministry, but at least partly a cover for intelligence activities. 'The man was not sacked for nothing,' Barberot said in a radio interview. 'He was suspected of high treason. The people who say this are the very same ones who arrested a number of SDECE agents who became compromised with Communist intelligence services during the past 10 years.'

Barberot also expressed his conviction that a number of drug-smuggling operations had been organised with the complicity of certain SDECE agents.

With the scandal getting enormous space in the French Press, M. Debré is becoming more and more testy. The publicity was unseemly, he said this week. The affair was worthy of the fifteenth page in a third-rate paper.

At the very moment when the Minister was censuring the French Press, de Marenches, the SDECE chief, was being interrogated for 90 minutes by an examining magistrate at the law courts. All this week past and present Intelligence executives have been turning up at the magistrate's office for questioning.

Already there are suggestions that other prominent Frenchmen

closely connected with the Gaullist regime may be involved in the affair. Ominously, Herbert Stern, the US State Attorney in charge of the investigations in New Jersey, told the French newspaper *L'Aurore* this week that 'someone else,' whose name could not be revealed for the moment, was involved in the case.

General Pierre Billotte, a former Defence Minister and General de Gaulle's wartime Chief of Staff, demanded last night that the SDECE should be disbanded. 'We must start from zero,' he said in an interview. 'Too many shady characters have remained in the French intelligence service and too many foreign influences are still being exerted on them.' Billotte is one of the leaders of the left wing of the Gaullist movement.

The SDECE, he added, had become 'a state within the State' and was operating outside the laws of the Republic and Government control. Billotte also said that an 'anti-Pompidou clan' was still active inside SDECE.

Billotte's statement, only 24 hours after the Defence Minister's renewed attempt to brush off the entire affair, shows that the SDECE scandal is causing mounting strains inside the Gaullist movement.

# THE WORLD

## International Report

### Dirty linen tumbles from the secret service closets

FROM OUR PARIS CORRESPONDENT

It began as a trivial drug scandal. And then the skeletons and dirty linen started tumbling out of French secret service closets. When M. Roger Delouette was arrested in New Jersey last April, charged with drug smuggling—heroin, some 90 pounds of it—he claimed to belong to France's Service de Documentation Extérieure et de Contre-Espionnage (SDECE), and to have been acting under the instructions of his superior, a certain Colonel Paul Fournier. French justice was duly informed, and an ill-tempered dialogue began between the New Jersey prosecutor, demanding that a case be brought against Colonel Fournier, and the French *juge d'instruction*, who wanted to question M. Delouette. In the middle of this month the full story started to spill out. The initial "unofficial" French version had been that the Americans, and the Central

Intelligence Agency in particular, were trying to embarrass the SDECE. Last week, a certain retired Colonel Barberot produced a quite different version for Radio Luxembourg. The affair, he suggested, was a fall-out from the 1970 purge of the organisation that followed the appointment of its new director by President Pompidou. He argued that the drug smuggling operation had probably been mounted by members of the old regime, and that the new regime had itself denounced M. Delouette to the Americans in order to get rid of him. And who was really behind M. Delouette? The colonel hinted that it wasn't Fournier (real name Ferrer, he said) and vigorously emphasised the links between M. Delouette and yet another colonel, a certain Colonel Beaumont, who had been a director of research for the SDECE before falling victim to the

1970 purge. Colonel Barberot claimed that he had been suspected of treason.

At this point the balloon went up and fog and dirty linen came down. The judge concerned at once demanded the tape of Colonel Barberot's radio interview and has been questioning him and some former agents ever since. Colonel Beaumont in turn broke cover on Monday, declaring that he was the victim of a plot, had never met M. Delouette although he knew the latter had been considered for a mission, and that he would sue Colonel Barberot for slander.

Inevitably the affair has become political, not least because the "treason" hinted at is a reference to the political basis of the SDECE purge—the removal, that is, of the numerous agents who under General de Gaulle had been busier spying on France's allies than on its nominal enemies. But who is gunning for whom? Colonel Barberot is a left-wing gaullist, and presumably no lover of the new regime. M. Michel Debré, the defence minister under whose wing the service operates, has given the body his full backing. Has Fournier-Ferrer been named because the new regime wanted him out of the way too, or because victims of the purge (which he survived) did, or because he was actually drug-smuggling, or merely because M. Delouette hoped to save his skin by naming a fictitious accomplice?

And how is it that Colonel Barberot knows so much about the SDECE? His only visible connection with the case is that he runs the Bureau for the Promotion of Agricultural Production which once employed M. Delouette. This innocent-sounding body supplies third-world countries with experts in agriculture.

The press is having a field day with every combination of answers to these questions, the opposition papers according to their lights, the pro-government *France-Soir* gallantly soldiering on with the theory that the whole thing is a CIA plot. For this theory it has found all manner of supporting evidence—attributed to happily anonymous sources in Switzerland.



Fournier—or somebody—is staying under wraps



STATINTL

### Inside Labor

# Have We Been Spooked Out of the SST?

By VICTOR RIESEL

WASHINGTON — It might have been the man from U.N.C.L.E. Or, since truth is consistently cornier than fiction, the CIA's theory is he was a counterspook.

Whoever he was, he appeared dignified, erudite, properly structured and every inch the high French official which he represented himself to be. When he turned off the Champs Elysees into the American Embassy in Paris, he carried a well-tailored, Madison Ave.-type report — with statistics and opinions attached.

In effect, what the French gentleman aerospace engineer-economist said in his heavy document presented to U.S. diplomats was that the British-French supersonic aircraft, the Concorde, was not viable. It

was not economic. It will never really be built. The report seemed to prove conclusively that the Concorde would never make it. It would never be put into production.

The French "government official" left taking his impeccable credentials with him and leaving his incredible report behind. This was well over a year ago and our ambassador to the Elysee Palace was Sargent Shriver. He dispatched it by pouch to the State Department which routed it along to other government agencies — asking what economic impact would it have on the U.S. if we built a supersonic transport (SST) and the French and British did not. What would happen to our balance of trade as we increased travel speed?

No idle question, this.

If we build a supersonic transport which can carry some 250 to 300 passengers to Europe in 2 hours and we fly a number of daily round trips, American tourism would rocket and dollars would pour out of the U.S. Now, if the British and French were not going to build an SST, if the Concorde really was being abandoned as the mysterious Frenchman would have our Paris embassy believe, then the flight of European tourists into the U.S. certainly would not match the outflow and we, the U.S. would lose hundreds of millions of dollars annually in the tourist balance of trade.

So why spend millions now on an American SST?

But we do have some aerospace experts in the U.S. They knew that the strange, albeit highly polished, report handed

to our embassy in Paris contradicted reports from French industrial and aerospace circles. So the Central Intelligence Agency and Air Force Intelligence moved in. They found enough to convince themselves that the mystery visitor was a French spook.

The British and French certainly were speeding the Concorde along. It was in advanced stages hour after hour. If it moved out fast, without facing American competition, it could cut in on \$100 billion worth of commercial flying equipment which will be sold during the next 10 years.

At this moment the U.S. dominates the commercial aircraft industry. It sells 85 percent of all such carriers. Our aerospace industry means bread and butter for more manufacturing workers than does any other — including auto and steel.

So the Frenchman's ploy was no happy-ending television script.

STATINTL

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## Letter From Paris

### Garaudy Proves Party Headache

By MARGOT LYON

PARIS—Last week the central committee of France's Communist Party expelled one of its most prominent members, Roger Garaudy, who for over 30 years has been a leading intellectual of the party until he was condemned at the party congress last February for criticizing the Soviet Union.

After being stripped of his membership of the French Politburo and of his post as director of the Marxist Research Center, Garaudy was banned from his local party cell last month at Chennevieres sur Marne, where he lives outside Paris. Today he has no status at all—except that he is proving one of the party's biggest headaches.

He has started one of the noisiest polemics that the French party has ever experienced, and attacks the Soviet Union as well. Now they, and not he, are defending themselves while the entire French public watches with the greatest interest.

#### Noise Startling

France has the Western world's second biggest Communist party, with about 20 per cent of the total vote in every election. Usually when Communists are rebuked by the top French leadership they suffer in silence, and the party is obviously surprised and taken aback by the amount of noise Garaudy is making—especially as his accusations against them concern international affairs and in particular, French Communists' role in the stifling of the first signs of liberty in Czechoslovakia almost two years ago.

GARAUDY SAYS that the present French Marxist leadership under its hard-line chief, Georges Marchais, helped in the downfall of former Czechoslovak leader

Alexander Dubcek. Garaudy took deeply to heart the entire Czechoslovak tragedy, when Soviet tanks rolled into Prague and overthrew the Dubcek regime because it dared to think for itself and tried to establish some freedom in Czechoslovakia.

#### Brief Criticism

It seems the French party has taken the accusations seriously—so much so that its daily paper, *l'Humanite*, this week took the unusual step of printing a two-page spread of notes of a private conversation between Dubcek and French party leaders during July 1968. One of the most interesting revelations of the talks is Dubcek's answer when the French (speaking for the Russians) complained that anti-Russian forces were gathering in the country and that Dubcek was doing nothing to crush them. He replied 'I admit our people have become slightly drunk with rediscovered liberty' but he refused to do anything to stop them.

When the Russians arrived to stamp down all liberty in the country and an outcry went up from all over the world, the French Communist party openly censured Soviet action—for the first time in its history. But its criticism of its Russian masters did not last long. Within a few weeks it made its peace again with the Soviet politburo and officially closed the subject. At last February's congress, Czech delegates from the Russian-imposed puppet regime attended as honored guests. Only Garaudy went on being seriously disturbed and wrote a book condemning Russian action, in which he pleaded that France's party ought itself to throw off Soviet leading strings.

INSTEAD, FRENCH and Czechs have accused both Garaudy and Dubcek of being agents or dupes of the United States. The Czechs so-called reformers, said a leading Czech paper this week, 'have in their great majority become mercenaries of the American Radio Free Europe.'

Garaudy himself has brushed aside all allegations of loyalty to anything except the cause of true socialism. He has come up fighting once more this week 'in the bourgeois press,' saying that important section of *teel* by *Humanite*. He also repeats once more that France's Communist leadership is dictatorial, and cares nothing about the workers except their obedience.

#### Workers Sit Up

He is certainly making a good many French workers sit up and think hard about the party they usually blindly support. And just at this moment, by chance, a new movie with popular French stars Yves Montand and Simone Signoret has just been launched here, that tells even more about the ruthlessness of Communist methods. It is the true story of a Czech deputy minister of foreign affairs in the government of 1949. While still minister in office he was kidnaped, imprisoned and forced to confess that during his years as a hero he had been on the secret pay of the CIA.

The scenes of his interrogation and torture are painful to see—and the star, Yves Montand with his wife Simone Signoret, were known as party sympathizers. Their willingness to play in this film gives it immense emotional impact on the French public.